

§ 2.733

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§ 2.733 Examination by experts.

A party may request the presiding officer to permit a qualified individual who has scientific or technical training or experience to participate on behalf of that party in the examination and cross-examination of expert witnesses. The presiding officer may permit such individual to participate on behalf of the party in the examination and cross-examination of expert witnesses, where it would serve the purpose of furthering the conduct of the proceeding, upon finding: (a) That the individual is qualified by scientific or technical training or experience to contribute to the development of an adequate decisional record in the proceeding by the conduct of such examination or cross-examination, (b) that the individual has read any written testimony on which he intends to examine or cross-examine and any documents to be used or referred to in the course of the examination or cross-examination, and (c) that the individual has prepared himself to conduct a meaningful and expeditious examination or cross-examination. Examination or cross-examination conducted pursuant to this section shall be limited to areas within the expertise of the individual conducting the examination or cross-examination. The party on behalf of whom such examination or cross-examination is conducted and his attorney shall be responsible for the conduct of examination or cross-examination by such individuals.

[37 FR 15132, July 28, 1972]

§ 2.734 Motions to reopen.

(a) A motion to reopen a closed record to consider additional evidence will not be granted unless the following criteria are satisfied:

(1) The motion must be timely, except that an exceptionally grave issue may be considered in the discretion of the presiding officer even if untimely presented.

(2) The motion must address a significant safety or environmental issue.

(3) The motion must demonstrate that a materially different result would be or would have been likely had the newly proffered evidence been considered initially.

(b) The motion must be accompanied by one or more affidavits which set forth the factual and/or technical bases for the movant's claim that the criteria of paragraph (a) of this section have been satisfied. Affidavits must be given by competent individuals with knowledge of the facts alleged, or by experts in the disciplines appropriate to the issues raised. Evidence contained in affidavits must meet the admissibility standards set forth in § 2.743(c). Each of the criteria must be separately addressed, with a specific explanation of why it has been met. Where multiple allegations are involved, the movant must identify with particularity each issue it seeks to litigate and specify the factual and/or technical bases which it believes support the claim that this issue meets the criteria in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) A motion predicated in whole or in part on the allegations of a confidential informant must identify to the presiding officer the source of the allegations and must request the issuance of an appropriate protective order.

(d) A motion to reopen which relates to a contention not previously in controversy among the parties must also satisfy the requirements for nontimely contentions in § 2.714(a)(1) (i) through (v).

[51 FR 19539, May 30, 1986; 51 FR 23523, June 30, 1986]

DEPOSITIONS AND WRITTEN INTERROGATORIES; DISCOVERY; ADMISSION; EVIDENCE

§ 2.740 General provisions governing discovery.

(a) *Discovery methods.* Parties may obtain discovery by one or more of the following methods: Depositions upon oral examination or written interrogatories (§ 2.740a); written interrogatories (§ 2.740b); production of documents or things or permission to enter upon land or other property, for inspection and other purposes (§ 2.741); and requests for admission (§ 2.742).

(b) *Scope of discovery.* Unless otherwise limited by order of the presiding officer in accordance with this section, the scope of discovery is as follows:

(1) *In general.* Parties may obtain discovery regarding any matter, not privileged, which is relevant to the subject matter involved in the proceeding, whether it relates to the claim or defense of any other party, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition, and location of any books, documents, or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter. When any book, document or other tangible thing sought is reasonably available from another source, such as at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov>, and/or the NRC Public Document Room, sufficient response to an interrogatory involving such materials would be the location, the title and a page reference to the relevant book, document or tangible thing. In a proceeding on an application for a construction permit or an operating license for a production or utilization facility, discovery begins only after the prehearing conference provided for in § 2.751a and relates only to those matters in controversy which have been identified by the Commission or the presiding officer in the prehearing order entered at the conclusion of that prehearing conference. In such a proceeding, no discovery may take place after the beginning of the prehearing conference held pursuant to § 2.752 except upon leave of the presiding officer upon good cause shown. It is not ground for objection that the information sought will be inadmissible at the hearing if the information sought appears reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

(2) *Trial preparation materials.* A party may obtain discovery of documents and tangible things otherwise discoverable under paragraph (b)(1) of this section and prepared in anticipation of or for the hearing by or for another party's representative (including his attorney, consultant, surety, indemnitor, insurer, or agent) only upon a showing that the party seeking discovery has substantial need of the materials in the preparation of this case and that he is unable without undue hardship to obtain the substantial equivalent of the materials by other means. In ordering discovery of such materials when the required showing has been made, the

presiding officer shall protect against disclosure of the mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, or legal theories of an attorney or other representative of a party concerning the proceeding.

(3) While interrogatories may seek to elicit factual information reasonably related to a party's position in the proceeding, including data used, assumptions made, and analyses performed by the party, such interrogatories may not be addressed to, or be construed to require:

(A) Reasons for not using alternative data, assumptions, and analyses where the alternative data, assumptions, and analyses were not relied on in developing the party's position; or

(B) Performance of additional research or analytical work beyond that which is needed to support the party's position on any particular matter.

(c) *Protective order.* Upon motion by a party or the person from whom discovery is sought, and for good cause shown, the presiding officer may make any order which justice requires to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense, including one or more of the following:

- (1) That the discovery not be had;
- (2) That the discovery may be had only on specified terms and conditions, including a designation of the time or place;
- (3) That the discovery may be had only by a method of discovery other than that selected by the party seeking discovery;
- (4) That certain matters not be inquired into, or that the scope of discovery be limited to certain matters;
- (5) That discovery be conducted with no one present except persons designated by the presiding officer;
- (6) That, subject to the provisions of §§ 2.744 and 2.790, a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information not be disclosed or be disclosed only in a designated way;
- (7) That studies and evaluations not be prepared.

If the motion for a protective order is denied in whole or in part, the presiding officer may, on such terms and conditions as are just, order that any

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party or person provide or permit discovery.

(d) *Sequence and timing of discovery.* Unless the presiding officer upon motion, for the convenience of parties and witnesses and in the interests of justice, orders otherwise, methods of discovery may be used in any sequence and the fact that a party is conducting discovery, whether by deposition or otherwise, shall not operate to delay any other party's discovery.

(e) *Supplementation of responses.* A party who has responded to a request for discovery with a response that was complete when made is under no duty to supplement his response to include information thereafter acquired, except as follows:

(1) A party is under a duty seasonably to supplement his response with respect to any question directly addressed to (i) the identity and location of persons having knowledge of discoverable matters, and (ii) the identity of each person expected to be called as an expert witness at the hearing, the subject matter on which he is expected to testify, and the substance of his testimony.

(2) A party is under a duty seasonably to amend a prior response if he obtains information upon the basis of which (i) he knows that the response was incorrect when made, or (ii) he knows that the response though correct when made is no longer true and the circumstances are such that a failure to amend the response is in substance a knowing concealment.

(3) A duty to supplement responses may be imposed by order of the presiding officer or agreement of the parties.

(f) *Motion to compel discovery.* (1) If a deponent or party upon whom a request for production of documents or answers to interrogatories is served fails to respond or objects to the request, or any part thereof, or fails to permit inspection as requested, the deposing party or the party submitting the request may move the presiding officer, within ten (10) days after the date of the response or after failure of a party to respond to the request for an order compelling a response or inspection in accordance with the request. The motion shall set forth the nature

of the questions or the request, the response or objection of the party upon whom the request was served, and arguments in support of the motion. For purposes of this paragraph, an evasive or incomplete answer or response shall be treated as a failure to answer or respond. Failure to answer or respond shall not be excused on the ground that the discovery sought is objectionable unless the person or party failing to answer or respond has applied for a protective order pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section.

(2) In ruling on a motion made pursuant to this section, the presiding officer may make such a protective order as he is authorized to make on a motion made pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section.

(3) This section does not preclude an independent request for issuance of a subpoena directed to a person not a party for production of documents and things. This section does not apply to requests for the testimony or interrogatories of the regulatory staff pursuant to § 2.720(h)(2) or production of NRC documents pursuant to § 2.744 or § 2.790, except for paragraphs (c) and (e) of this section.

[37 FR 15133, July 28, 1972, as amended at 43 FR 17802, Apr. 26, 1978; 54 FR 33181, Aug. 11, 1989; 64 FR 48948, Sept. 9, 1999]

§ 2.740a Depositions upon oral examination and upon written interrogatories.

(a) Any party desiring to take the testimony of any party or other person by deposition on oral examination or written interrogatories shall, without leave of the Commission or the presiding officer, give reasonable notice in writing to every other party, to the person to be examined and to the presiding officer of the proposed time and place of taking the deposition; the name and address of each person to be examined, if known, or if, the name is not known, a general description sufficient to identify him or the class or group to which he belongs; the matters upon which each person will be examined and the name or descriptive title and address of the officer before whom the deposition is to be taken.

(b) [Reserved]